

## DRIVE BACK JAPS

RUSSIANS TAKE OFFENSIVE AND  
BREAK OYAMO'S LINE.

## KUROKI MAKES FATAL MISTAKE

Russians Seize a Hill He Failed to  
Occupy and Fortify It—Japanese  
Right Also Turned and They Are  
Forced to Abandon Position.

ST. PETERSBURG—General Kuropatkin's order of the day announcing his determination to take the offensive is supplemented tonight by the news that an offensive movement has already begun and that the Japanese lines have been broken at Bentsiaputze. The Japanese occupied a front of about fifty-two miles, stretching from Bentsiaputze on the east through Yental and across the railway to the banks of the Hun river on the west. The Russian force has been moving south in close touch with the Japanese advance since October 4. The Japanese outposts were driven back in a series of skirmishes, and on October 6 the Russians reoccupied the station of Shakhe, fifteen miles south of Mukren, the railway battalion restoring the bridge across the Shakhe river the next day in order to facilitate the advance. Now General Mitchenko's Cossacks pushed southward as far as the Yental mines, defeating the Japanese in a series of warm skirmishes. The most important action, however, occurred at the Japanese right at Bentsiaputze. Here the Japanese held a strong and important position, but it seems they made the inexplicable omission to fortify a commanding hill which was the key to the whole situation. A portion of General Kourapatkin's force made a strong attack on Bentsiaputze, and taking a leaf from the Japanese book, occupied the hill from the east and flanked the Japanese out of the town, causing a serious loss in a rear guard fight. The Russian casualties have been inconsiderable.

While these operations are progressing south of Mukden, it is reported that two Japanese divisions, under General Fushima, are marching west up the Liao river and are now twenty-two miles south of Sinmintin. General Kuroki is expected to make a similar movement eastward. This statement, if accurate, leaves the two armies in the anomalous position of threatening each other's lines of communication, the Japanese by a wide turning movement, while the Russians, pushing southward, have already inflicted a blow on the Japanese right and are crowding back their center along the railway.

While it is understood that Mukden is not heavily fortified, General Kuropatkin has a powerful force behind him strongly posted at Tie Pass, and he asserts the Russians are now powerful enough to assume the offensive. It is possible his aggressive movement will force the Japanese flanking column to withdraw in order to protect its own base.

## COMMITTED TO THE GRAVE.

Last Services Over Body of George  
F. Hoar Held.

CONCORD, Mass.—The last services over the body of United States Senator George Frisbie Hoar were held Tuesday in this town, the place of his birth, and several hundred of the senator's former townsmen followed the body to the place of its burial in Sleepy Hollow cemetery. In the First Parish church service was conducted by the pastor, Rev. Loren B. McDonald. The pastor spoke no words of eulogy, reading instead James Russell Lowell's poem on Channing. At the grave brief services of burial were held and the body was committed to the grave.

## GUARDING THE BATTLESHIP

Extra Precautions Taken in Behalf of  
Connecticut.

WASHINGTON—After delaying for some time in the hope that by working secret detectives might be able to discover the persons who have been making various attempts to damage the battleship Connecticut in the New York navy yard, the navy department concluded to publish the latest report in the case from William J. Baxter, the constructor in charge at New York, feeling that publicity now will make toward the protection of the vessel in the future from a repetition of such attempts. The report shows in detail how holes were skillfully drilled near the battleship's keel and how a ball had been placed as an obstruction to the launching.

Acting Secretary Darling endorsed the report as follows:

"The precautions taken by the commandant and naval constructor are approved.

"The official report also shows that the efforts to ruin the battleship were persistent; that the attempts began six months ago, and that they continued since that time, notwithstanding the close watch kept on the vessel day and night."

"The recommendation of the bureau that special legislation be enacted which will provide adequate punishment for any person who may damage or attempt to damage maliciously, public property, either completed or in course of preparation, is approved and the subject will be handled through the usual channel."

## PORTER EXPRESSES SORROW.

Ambassador of United States Writes  
Letter of Condolence.

PARIS—Acting on instructions from Washington Ambassador Porter sent Mme. Bartholdi the following letter:

Madame: The death of the eminent sculptor who had always aimed at giving to his works the expression of some great idea or noble aspiration has profoundly moved the American nation, which has received from him lasting proof of his sincere admiration. As the interpreter of these sentiments the government of the United States has bidden me to say to you that the statue of liberty enlightening the world has rendered the name of Bartholdi dear to all my countrymen, who join in your grief and that of the artistic world. In acquitting myself this duty allows me to express my personal sympathies and those of all the members of the embassy who, like myself, had with Bartholdi friendly relations during the last twenty years which have left in our hearts sovereigns we never shall forget. I have the honor to be, your respectful servant,  
HORACE PORTER.

## STALWARTS STAY IN FIELD

Wisconsin Campaign Is to Be Fought  
by Rival Republican Factions.

MILWAUKEE—Samuel A. Cook of Neenah has withdrawn from the head of the stalwart republican state ticket and is succeeded by Former Governor Edward Scofield. The selection of Scofield will be ratified by the state central committee at a special meeting tomorrow.

The question of mandamus proceedings to compel Secretary of State Houser to place the list of republican electors in both columns was left open, pending further investigation by attorneys for the stalwart faction. The stalwart have determined to remain in the field and have arranged for an active campaign.

## David Auld Drops Dead.

ATCHISON, Kan.—David Auld, president of the First National bank, and a pioneer Kansan, dropped dead here Friday, aged 80 years. Mr. Auld built the Hannibal road into Atchison.

## INTO DEEP WATER

THE NEBRASKA LAUNCHED WITH  
SHOUTS AND BOOMS.

## CHRISTENED BY MISS MICKEY

Daughter of Nebraska's Chief Executive  
Stands Sponsor for the Vessel.  
Ship Supports Weakened Too  
Quickly and Boat Takes the Water.

SEATTLE—Special to the Omaha Bee: Impatient of restraint and eager to rush into the arms of Old Ocean, the Nebraska broke through the stays that held it and at 2:02 p. m., amid the shouts of 50,000 people, the booming of great guns of the monitor Wyoming, the blare of bands and the hoarse shrieks of all the whistles of all the ships in the harbor, the great hull glided down the ways and into its natural element.

Miss Mickey was not unaware, and as the first tremor of the starting ship was noted, she broke the brightly decked bottle of champagne across the massive steel nose of the vessel, a new ship was born and christened.

The day was dark and foggy, but the citizens made a holiday of it. All banks and other business houses were closed from noon until 3:30 p. m., that everybody might have an opportunity to attend what is here looked on as one of the most important events in the history of the city. At the shipyards every inch of room was occupied and on the adjoining wharves the people swarmed to the danger point. Sound steamers and tugs were fitted up as floating grandstands and many thousands were thus given a chance to see the new warship take its dip into the water.

On the launching stand had assembled the officers of the states of Washington and Nebraska and representatives of the army and navy of the United States, together with many distinguished citizens who were invited by the Moran Bros. company to grace the occasion with their presence. Bands from the navy yard, from Fort Lawton and from Vancouver barracks furnished the music, among the pieces being a spirited march dedicated to Nebraska by a local composer, and played publicly for the first time today.

The only hitch in the program for the launching was that caused by the impetuosity of the ship itself. Apparently imbued with the spirit of the occasion and eager to show that it could keep up with the pace set by the great state for which it is named, the Nebraska started eleven minutes before the time set.

The tide was still rising, but the water was sufficiently high to avoid danger of an accident. Congressman Humphrey of Washington had just begun his speech, which was to have been followed by an invocation by Rev. Dr. Matthews of Seattle, when a crash was heard as of breaking planks, and the great bulk trembled for an instant. All eyes seemed to have centered on the ship rather than on the speaker, for a whisper, "She's moving," turned instantly into a tumultuous cheer, and the Nebraska was on its way to the water.

Miss Mary Nain Mickey stood ready, a charming sponsor for a magnificent craft, coolly awaiting the word. As she saw the vessel starting she quickly grasped the bottle by the neck and broke it over the stem of the vessel, pronouncing the conventional formula as she did so. Her words were never heard, even by herself, for the signal service had been so accurate and the lookout so keen that the vessel had not moved a foot along the ways till the great guns of the Wyoming began to thunder a greeting to the newest sister of the navy and all the joyous pandemonium of the affair broke loose.

For an orchid, an *Odontoglossum Crispum Cooksoniae*, \$3,360 was recently paid.

## HE PASSED AWAY.

Postmaster General Payne Dies in  
Washington.

WASHINGTON—Henry C. Payne, postmaster general of the United States, a member of the national republican committee, a stalwart of his party, with the history of which, both in his home state and nationally, he has been identified for many years, died at his apartments at the Arlington hotel at 6:10 o'clock Tuesday night, aged 60 years.

Mr. Payne has been in poor health for at least two years, but his last illness covered only seven days, an attack of heart trouble last week precipitating the end at a time when, after a rest, he seemed to have recovered a small measure of his vitality impaired by years of arduous labor. Death this afternoon came after nearly six hours of unconsciousness.

The last official who called to inquire as to Mr. Payne's condition was President Roosevelt, and he had been gone only about ten minutes when the stricken member of his cabinet expired. As Mr. Roosevelt was leaving he spoke feelingly of Mr. Payne to the newspaper men gathered in front of the hotel, as "the sweetest, most lovable and most trustful man I ever knew."

Around Mr. Payne's bedside at the time of death was his devoted wife, Rev. Dr. Dunlap, pastor of St. John's Episcopal church; Major and Mrs. W. S. Cameron of Jamestown, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Winfield Cameron of Milwaukee; Charles L. Jones and Miss Louise Jones, relatives; Private Secretary Whitney, Miss Marie Barblere, an old companion of Mrs. Payne; Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Mason of Washington.

The last day had been one during which practically all hope had been abandoned for some hours. The approach of dissolution beginning during the noon hour, when the sick man lost consciousness and no longer recognized those whom he had attempted to cheer during his illness by saying to them that he was all right. Rev. Dr. Dunlap of St. John's Episcopal church at the request of Mrs. Payne, read at the bedside of the dying man, Psalm 130, "Out of the depths," and then repeated the prayers prescribed by the Episcopal church service.

## LONE BANDIT ROBS A BANK.

Secures About Fourteen Hundred Dollars by the Trick.

TREYNOR, Ia.—Taking advantage of the fact that nearly all of the residents of the town were in Council Bluffs attending the German celebration, a lone bandit succeeded Thursday afternoon in robbing the Savings bank of Treynor, Ia., of \$1,400 and making his escape unmolested.

The bank was in charge of Miss Flood, a young woman about 18 years of age, the eldest daughter of Thomas Flood, the cashier of the institution, who was out in the country on other business. Miss Flood was alone in the bank building, which it situated on the main street of the town, when about 3:30 o'clock a man drove up to the bank in a buggy drawn by a double team. Entering the bank the stranger asked Miss Flood if her father was in, and receiving an answer in the negative, drew a revolver and leveling it at her head, ordered her to produce the cash. He took what was on the counter and then ordered Miss Flood to secure the money in the vault. Having secured what was in sight, \$1,400, he shut her in the vault, where she remained for about fifteen minutes before being released by a customer who came in and heard her cries. A posse was at once organized and the pursuit of the robber taken up.

## Railway Accident in Wales.

LONDON—Four persons were killed and it is estimated that about fifty were injured, some of them fatally, in a railway accident near Llanelly, 15 miles southeast of Carmarthen, Wales.